



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION SERVICE**  
No.4 Visayas Avenue, Brgy. Vasra, Quezon City  
Trunk line: (02) 8-924-7980; Telefax: (02) 8-924-7973  
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FCS Copy

2 March 2022

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. 03 - 20 22 - 010**  
Series of 2022

**TO : ALL CONCERNED**

**FROM : THE OIC - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT : PUBLIC ADVISORY REGARDING THE ILLEGAL TRADING OF IMPORTED INDIAN BUFFALO MEAT (IBM)**

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The National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) through its Enforcement Section of Regional Technical Operations Center (RTOC) - National Capital Region (NCR) intercepted a transaction through a buy-bust operation of illegal trading of imported Indian Buffalo Meat (IBM) which was being illegally offered for sale online.

The seized and confiscated five (5) boxes of IBM were found to be contained in a different secondary packaging bearing a mismatched brand name and country of origin to be disguised as Brazilian Beef concealing the actual product information.

NMIS warns the **public not to buy imported IBM as this commodity should be solely used for meat processing, using the standards provided for in the Chapter 8.7, Article 8.7.34 of OIE-TAHC (2014) for the inactivation of viruses present in the meat.**

*Pursuant to Department of Agriculture (DA) Administrative Circular (AC) No. 12 Series of 2015 also known as the "Updated Rules and Regulations Governing the Allocation, Importation, and Utilization of Fresh Frozen Buffalo Meat from India." Section 3 Scope and General Conditions Item No. 3.5 Meat Processing Controls states that the IBM shall be solely used for meat processing, using standards provided for in the Chapter 8.7, Article 8.7.34 of OIE-TAHC (2014) for the inactivation of viruses present in the meat.*

NMIS also warns that **IBM found to be in the possession of unauthorized persons is a violation of the DA AC No. 12 Series of 2015 also known as the "Updated Rules and Regulations Governing the Allocation, Importation, and Utilization of Fresh Frozen Buffalo Meat from India." Also, violation of the said circular is punishable under the Republic Act (RA) No. 9296, as amended by RA No. 10536, also known as the "Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines" and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.**

*"A food-secure Philippines with prosperous farmers and fisherfolk"*





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*Republic Act No. 9296 otherwise known as the "Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines," as amended by Republic Act No. 10536 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations DA Department Circular (DA DC) No. 01 Series of 2014 Section 48. Prohibited Acts.*

*Pursuant to DA DC No. 01 Series of 2014 Chapter XIV Penalties and Sanctions Section 56. Fines and Penalties states that any person who commits violations of any of the provisions of this Act, or shall commit any of the prohibited acts mentioned under Sections **48**, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53 and 54 under Chapter XII of Republic Act No. 9296, or shall sell, transport, offer or receive for sale or transportation in commerce hot meat as herein defined, upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1) day but not more than twelve (12) years or a fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) or both such fine and imprisonment upon discretion of the court.*

To ensure safe meat for all, please report to NMIS any illegal trade transaction of imported Indian Buffalo Meat (IBM) to the following contact details:

Office of the Executive Director: [nmisexedir@gmail.com](mailto:nmisexedir@gmail.com)  
(02) 8 924 7980 locals 102 and 103  
NMIS Facebook Page: NMIS - Safe Meat for All  
[\[https://www.facebook.com/NMISSafeMeatforAll\]](https://www.facebook.com/NMISSafeMeatforAll)  
Meat Import Export Division: [nmis.mied@gmail.com](mailto:nmis.mied@gmail.com)  
(02) 8 924 7980 locals 109 and 115

Thank you for your cooperation.

  
**DR. JOCELYN A. SALVADOR, MPM**

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**ACTUAL PHOTOS OF THE SEIZED AND CONFISCATED INDIAN BUFFALO MEAT  
(IBM)**



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